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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,235	03/12/2004	Sze-Moey Voon	200314056-1	8851

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EXAMINER
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BUI, HUNG S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2841

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/800,235

Applicant(s)

VOON ET AL.

Examiner

Hung S. Bui

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 11-24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dillon et al. [US 4,758,924].

Regarding claims 1, 13-15, Dillon et al. disclose a housing for an electronic system (figures 1 and 2a-b), comprising:

- an interface (28, 29 or 30) opening operable to expose an interface connector (figure 2a) that is mounted to an interface held by the housing and coupled to circuitry (33) disposed within the housing; and
- a passage (17 or 18) having a first opening (an opening from the left side) adjacent to the interface opening, having a second opening (an opening far end from the right side) and a third opening (an opening on top of the passage between the first and second openings), the passage being operable to hold a communication medium (37) that includes a communication connector attached to the interface connector and that extends from the interface connector through the first opening and the second opening (figures 2a, 2b).

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Regarding claim 3, Dillon et al. further disclose interface opening being mounting on a back of the housing and the passage being mounted on top of the housing (figure 2a).

Regarding claim 4, Dillon et al. disclose wherein the third opening is adjacent the second opening (figure 2a).

Regarding claims 6-7, Dillon et al. further disclose the passage being substantially straight/rectangular (figures 2a, 2b).

Regarding claim 11, Dillon et al. further disclose the housing comprising a storage compartment (11a) and the second opening opens to the storage compartment (figure 2a, 2b).

Regarding claim 12, Dillon et al. disclose the housing further comprising a storage compartment, a top covering the passage (figure 1) and the third opening is located on the top, and the second opening opens to the storage compartment (figures 2a, 2b).

Regarding claim 21, Dillon et al. disclose therein the third opening opens to an environment outside the housing (figures 1, 2a-b).

Regarding claim 22, Dillon et al. disclose wherein the communication medium extends through the interface opening (figures 2a, 2b).

Regarding claims 16-20 and 23-24, the claimed method steps are inherent in the product structure.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dillon et al. in view of Inoue [US 6,072,981].

Regarding claim 5, Dillon et al. disclose the third opening being adjacent the second opening (figure 2a) and the housing including a top (19) covering the passage (figure 1).

Dillon et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for the passage having a cap covered the third opening.

Inoue discloses a passage (figure 1) including first, second and third openings (2a, 3a and 4a), wherein the third opening is covered by a cap (30, 31, figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a cap on the passage of Dillon et al., as suggested by Inoue, for the purpose of protecting communication cables therein the passage.

Regarding claims 8-9, Dillon et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for an area of the first opening is different with an area of the second opening.

Inoue discloses an area of the first opening (2a) is different area of the second opening (3a, figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the areas of the first and second openings being different in Dillon et al., in order to provide a difference number of cables to access therein the passage.

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dillon et al. in view of Beavers [US 5,896,268].

Regarding claim 10, Dillon et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for the passage formed tapers.

Beavers discloses an electronic system (figure 2) having a passage (12) formed tapers.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the passage design of Beavers for the passage of Dillon et al., for the purpose of reducing volume of the electronic system.

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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***Conclusion***


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

2/15/06

***Hung Bui***  
***Art Unit 2841***

  
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